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Twenty-first Season

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WEEK OF JUNE 30, 1947

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CAPE PLAYHOUSE STARTS 21st YEAR

1947 marks the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Cape Playhouse by the late Raymond Moore. It was on July 4, 1927, that he opened the doors of the former Nobscusset Meeting House, originally built about 1790 but reconverted to the needs and uses of a theatre. With Basil Rathbone and Violet Kemble Cooper starring in Molnar's "The Guardsman," the curtain went up. The show was on!

Since that summer of 1927 most of the famous stars of stage and screen have appeared at the Cape Playhouse — Maude Adams, Bette Davis, Tallulah Bankhead, Paul Robeson, Gregory Peck, Gertrude Lawrence, to select a few names at random. The plays have included almost everything from "Hamlet" to "Holiday."

In Mr. Moore's original prospectus published in March, 1927, the management of the Cape Playhouse expressed its hope "to stand for the best in the field of art, and to establish something infinitely more important than a mere commercial theatre . . . to offer the public something of definite value, and to receive in return the public's interest, co-operation, and its financial support at the box-office."

Those words of Raymond Moore still guide the management of the Cape Playhouse. This 21st year reaffirms earlier signs of a renaissance in the theatre which is the natural cultural consequence after times of emotional upheaval. The Cape Playhouse plans to take an active part in this period of theatrical history by not only representing exciting productions of the best plays in the theatre but giving new talent a chance to work with the old. By following such principles, the Cape Playhouse intends to maintain its reputation as "America's Most Famous Summer Theatre."

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

CONSTANCE BENNETT: After her current Cape Playhouse engagement, Constance Bennett returns to Hollywood to star in the second of her own independent productions, titled "Smart Woman." And "Smart Woman" might well be the glamorous producer-actress' own tag! Miss Bennett, who is renowned as the highest salaried actress on record, as a consequence of the Warner Brothers film contract which paid her the lofty salary of $30,000 a week, has achieved a place in the business world as well as in the theatre. She owns her own cosmetic firm, and has a dress line manufactured by Fashion Frocks, Inc. in Cincinnati, Ohio. "Smart Woman" indeed!

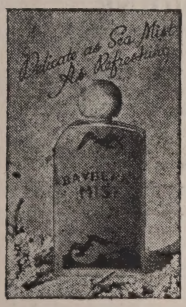
One of the three actress-daughters of Richard Bennett, Constance Bennett was educated in Versailles, France and at Miss Chandor's School for Girls in New York. Her motion-picture hits have included "Common Clay," "The Easiest Way," "What Price Hollywood, "Topper" and "Topper Takes a Trip." Her latest pictures are "Centennial Summer" and forthcoming "The Unsuspected."

Since actor-producers are flourishing in such great numbers, it is interesting to remember that Miss Bennett was the first full-fledged woman producer, in 1946 producing and starring in her own production, "Paris Underground," the picturization of Etta Shiber's true adventures in Paris during the occupation.

Among her stage plays have been Noel Coward's "Easy Virture," produced by Richard Aldrich, and the Theatre Guild's presentation of Philip Barry's "Without Love."

In private life, Constance Bennett is the wife of U. S. Army Air Corps Colonel John Coulter, and has been living at Maxwell Field, Alabama, where Col. Coulter is stationed. The experience of Army wife for the last five years quite parallels Miss Ben-

(Continued to Page 6)



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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Continued from Page 5)

nett's role in "Over Twenty-One"—the glamorous wife who gives up her position in the fashionable entertainment and literary world to follow her soldier husband to whatever camps the khaki calls him!

EDMON RYAN (Max Wharton) is a native of the Blue Grass State who lost every trace of his Southern accent in England and New England. After graduation from Wesleyan University, he did post graduate work at the Yale University Drama Department. Ryan's first role on the Broadway stage was as Virgil Beamis in "Post Road" and he appeared subsequently in principle roles in "The Male Animal" and "Hope for the Best." He was seen most recently as George Hand in Elmer Rice's Broadway comedy hit, "Dream Girl." In the years between 1936 and 1940, Ryan made 12 motion pictures in England. While there, he tried his hand at directing and three of his shows, "Post Road", "Thieves Fall Out", and "Lover's Meeting", had successful London runs. English theatre goers also saw Ryan in the London productions of "Alien Corn", "Golden Boy" and "Three Men on a Horse". This will mark Edmon Ryan's first appearance at the Cape Playhouse.

(Continued to Page 7)

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Continued from Page 6)

MORTON L. STEVENS (Robert Drexel Gow) is no newcomer to the Cape Playhouse. Audiences at the Playhouse last summer will remember him as Mr. Doolittle in "Pygmalion", the proprietor of the tavern in "The Playboy of the Western World," and the father from Worcester in "The Late George Apley." Over a period of 37 years as a professional actor, Stevens, a native of Mass., has played more than 600 parts including roles in "Winterset," "The Farmer Takes a Wife," (starring Cape Playhouse alumni June Walker and Henry Fonda)

(Continued to Page 12)

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THIS WEEK IN PAST SEASONS

"Over Twenty-one" marks the first engagement of the 1947 season. Here are other Cape Playhouse productions that celebrate anniversaries this week:

1927—Molnar's THE GUARDSMAN, with Basil Rathbone.

1928—Peggy Wood in THE BRIDE.

1929—ON APPROVAL, with Helen Freeman.

1930—ENTER MADAME, starring Alice Brady.

1931—MRS. MOONLIGHT, with Edith Barrett, Sir Guy Standing, and Leo G. Carroll.

1932—Philip Barry's HOLIDAY, with Edith Barrett, William Harrigan, and Spring Byington.

1933—Mady Christians, Sam Jaffe, and Tamara Geva in THE DIVINE DRUDGE.

1934—THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS, with Percy Kilbride.

1935—IT'S A WISE CHILD, with Forrest Orr.

1936—THE SONG AND DANCE MAN, with Donald Brian.

1937—Imogene Coca and Catherine Doucet in CALLING ALL MEN.

1938—HONEY, with Mary Brian, June Walker, and Margaret Wycherley.

1939—George S. Kaufman and Marc Connelly's comedy, MERTON OF THE MOVIES, with June Walker and Don Terry.

1940—Gertrude Lawrence in Noel Coward's PRIVATE LIVES.

1941—GEORGE WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE, with Charles Butterworth and Jinx Falkenburg.

1942—W. Somerset Maugham's THE CIRCLE, with Fritzi Scheff and Karen Morley.

1946—Shaw's PYGMALION, starring Gertrude Lawrence.

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in

"OVER TWENTY-ONE"

A Comedy by

RUTH GORDON

with

EDMON RYAN **MORTON STEVENS** **GUY SAMPSEL**

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Settings by Eugene Fitsch

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CAST

Jan Lupton	CORA SMITH
Roy Lupton	RUSSELL DENNIS
Paula Wharton	CONSTANCE BENNETT
Max Wharton	EDMON RYAN
Robert Drexel Gow	MORTON STEVENS
An Elderly Gent	ALAN MACATEER
Mrs. Armina Gates	HAZEL JONES
Col. H. C. Foley	RONALD TELFER
Mrs. Foley	PENELOPE SACK
Joel I. Nixon	GUY SAMPSEL
Miss Manley	MARY WALKER

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Act I
June.

Act II
July.

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Act III

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The Cape Playhouse wishes to thank Ryder's new and used furniture, North Harwich, for furnishings; Mr. and Mrs. Roland Allen and Mrs. Richard Rablin for incidental properties; The Yarmouth Greenhouses for floral decorations.

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Continued from Page 7)

Katherine Cornell's revival of "Candida," and Laurance Stalling's "The Streets Are Guarded." This season on Broadway, Mr. Stevens appeared in Eugene O'Neill's "The Iceman Cometh".

HAZEL JONES (Mrs. Armina Gates) comes to the Broadway and summer theatre stages via Hampshire, England. Her acting experience on the continent has been considerable with her appearance as Juliet in Paris and tour of Holland in John Galsworthy's play, "The Pigeons" climaxing her European stage career. Miss Jones comes to the Playhouse after appearing on Broadway in "Pygmalion," radio work on "The Theatre Guild of the Air" and a featured role in the movie, "Carnegie Hall." She has toured Army and Navy hospitals in "The Man Who Came to Dinner," and "Personal Appearance" for the American Theatre Wing.

RONALD TELFER (Col. H. C. Foley) is a permanent member of the Cape Playhouse acting company. He has spent eighteen years in the theatre covering a varied career that includes roles opposite such stars as Constance Bennett, Mary Boland and Marjorie Rambeau, and being responsible for the formation of the San Francisco Repertory Co. noted for its presentation of the Bard's lesser known plays.

GUY SAMPSEL (Joel I. Nixon) can be remembered by regular Cape Playhouse patrons as appearing in "Road to Rome," "Idiots Delight," "Lightning," "Easy Virtue," "Stage Door" and "Merton of the Movies" several seasons back. Since then, he has performed in the Broadway productions of "I Remember Mama," "Uncle Harry," "Cue for Passion," More the Merrier" and "St. Helena." Besides his vocation as an actor, Mr. Sampsel has had considerable success as a free-lance radio writer.

(Continued to Page 13)

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Continued from Page 12)

PENELOPE SACK (Mrs. Foley) appeared in three of last season's productions at the Cape Playhouse. She made her bow as Sara Tansey in "Playboy of the Western World," played Eleanor in "The Late George Apley" and appeared as Mrs. Bradman in the season's final offering, "Blithe Spirit." She is known as the youngest actress to tour the hinterlands in a major Shakespearian role, having played Olivia in the Chekhov Theatre's production of "Twelfth Night" several years ago. Besides her career as an actress, Miss Sack is one of the "founding fathers" and executives of Broadway's Theatre Incorporated. In the Fall, she plans to produce on Broadway Robert Anderson's "Eden Rose."

ROBERT WARK (Roy Lupton), prior to his six-year stint in the Navy, last acted with Carol Goodner and James Bell in "The Great American Family." This past winter in New York, Mr. Wark, a Lieutenant Commander in the Naval Reserve, performed in the Experimental Theatre's production of the "Wanhope Building" and an Equity Library Theatre presentation of "Arms and the Man."

CORA SMITH (Jan Lupton) worked with the play's leading lady, Miss Bennett, in 1940, when they toured in Mr. Aldrich's production of "Easy Virtue," in which Miss Smith was the ingenue. She has appeared in such Broadway plays as "I Remember Mama," "The World's Full of Girls" and "The Wookey," and has performed on most of the daytime radio serials and in several CBS television broadcasts.

MARY WALKER (Miss Manley), in her second season at the Cape Playhouse, returns in a dual capacity. Besides her regular chores as

(Continued to Page 14)

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

(Continued from Page 13)

Assistant Stage Manager, Miss Walker will take an occasional turn at acting. This winter she appeared with Burgess Meredith in "The Playboy of the Western World."

ALAN MACATEER (An Elderly Gent) was with the original Provincetown Players and appeared in many of Eugene O'Neill's early plays including "The Hairy Ape," "Emperor Jones," and "Different," as well as the Broadway productions of "The Devil's Disciple," "The Faithful," and "Moon 'Til Midnight." Mr. Macateer has appeared on such radio programs as "Just Plain Bill," "David Harum," "Mr. District Attorney," "Mr. Keene," "Real Life Stories" and "Stella Dallas. He recently acted in the films "Boomerang" and "Kiss of Death."

THE CAPE CINEMA opened the season on Thursday, June 26th with THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR, starring Gene Tierney, Rex Harrison and George Sanders. This picture will end on Wednesday, July 2nd.

The second week will feature glamorous Ann Sheridan, with Lew Ayers and Zachary Scott in THE UNFAITHFUL, which will run for one week ending July 9th.

THE CAPE PLAYHOUSE RESTAURANT opened the 27th of June, serving the same fine food as in former years in addition to liquor. Also new this season are the hours. Guests may now linger long after the theatre's final curtain, as the restaurant will not close until 1:00 A. M.

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ANN SHERIDAN in
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LILLIAN GISH RETURNS TO STAGE NEXT WEEK

Lillian Gish, one of the most famous stars of stage and screen and currently in the film "Duel in the Sun," will make her first appearance in a summer theatre next week in Noel Coward's saucy comedy, "The Marquise." She will play the role of a bewitching and sophisticated Marquise of 18th Century Spain who returns to the scene of her early amours.

Since her rise to fame in "The Birth of a Nation" in 1915, Lillian Gish has held her place at the top with her wistfully tragic roles in "Broken Blossoms," "Way Down East," "Orphans of the Storm", and more recently in "Commandos Strike at Dawn" and "Miss Susie Slagle's." She has also won critical acclaim in the theatre in Jed Harris' production of "Uncle Vanya," as Ophelia in John Gielgud's "Hamlet," "Camille," "The Star Wagon" and "Life With Father."

In support will be Royal Beal and Mary MacArthur, the 18-year old daughter of Helen Hayes and Charles MacArthur.

MARTHA SCOTT AS ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING

Martha Scott in "The Barretts of Wimpole Street" marks the third bill this season. Beginning Monday, July 14, she will star in the role of Elizabeth Barrett Browning in the world-famous Rudolf Besier play, which is released to summer theatres for the first time.

Miss Scott returns to the Cape Playhouse where she first made her stage debut and served theatrical apprenticeship in the mid-thirties. Since her Dennis days, she has gone on to stardom, establishing herself as an actress of great talent in the play and film version of Thornton Wilder's "Our Town." She has also appeared in the motion pictures "Cheers for Miss Bishop" and "One Foot in Heaven," and recently on Broadway in "The Voice of the Turtle" and "Soldier's Wife."

In "The Barretts of Wimpole Street", Martha Scott will assume the role of the great British poetess whose deep love for Robert Browning overcame for her a phyical handicap and an unnatural domination by a tyrannical father.

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